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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re the application of:

Applicant: SMITH, Robert K.  
Serial No.: 09/809,307  
Filed: March 16, 2001  
Title: FREE FLOATING SUB-FLOOR PANEL  
Our Ref: T8464854US  
Examiner: Goldman, Cheryl L.  
Art Unit: 3635

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

To: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231  
U.S.A.

Date: July 29, 2002

This is in response to the Examiner's action dated June 21, 2002 in the above case.

Please amend the application as follows:

**In the Disclosure**

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing on page 4 at line 11 as follows:

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Turning now to Figure 4, the projections 16 extend away from the lower member 14 in the opposite direction to the upper member 12. The projections 16 are frustoconical shaped with a bottom surface 24 and a cavity 26 extending from the bottom surface 24 towards the upper member 12. Preferably the projections 16 are aligned in rows and columns to enable the floor panels 10 to be cut between the projections 16 without leaving any half-cut projections 16. When the floor panel 10 is installed, the bottom surface 24 of the projections 16 is located adjacent the underlying surface 11. In some applications further levelling of the floor panels 10 may be required if the underlying surface 11 is uneven. This can be achieved by stacking additional layers of the lower member 14 under the lower member 14 on the floor panel 10 in the areas where raising is required. The additional layers of the lower member 14 can be sized to fit the area that requires further levelling.

Please rewrite the paragraph commencing on page five at line 14 as follows: